

October 20, 2009

TO: Members of the Transportation Policy Committee

FROM: Mayor Marie Lopez Rogers, Avondale, Chair

SUBJECT: NOTIFICATION OF MEETING AND TRANSMITTAL OF **REVISED** TENTATIVE AGENDA

Meeting - 4:00 p.m.

Wednesday, October 21, 2009

MAG Office, Suite 200 - Saguaro Room

302 N. First Avenue, Phoenix

A meeting of the Transportation Policy Committee is scheduled for the time and place noted above. Members of the Committee may attend the meeting either in person, by videoconference, or by telephone conference call. As determined at the first meeting of the Committee, proxies are not allowed. Members who are not able to attend the meeting are encouraged to submit their comments in writing, so that their view is always a part of the process.

For those attending in person, please park in the garage under the building. Bring your ticket to the meeting, parking will be validated. For those using transit, the Regional Public Transportation Authority will provide transit tickets for your trip. For those using bicycles, please lock your bicycle in the bike rack in the garage.

Pursuant to Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), MAG does not discriminate on the basis of disability in admission to or participation in its public meetings. Persons with a disability may request a reasonable accommodation, such as a sign language interpreter, by contacting Valerie Day at the MAG office. Requests should be made as early as possible to allow time to arrange the accommodation.

Refreshments and a light snack will be provided. If you have any questions, please contact Eric Anderson, MAG Transportation Director, or Dennis Smith, MAG Executive Director, at (602) 254-6300.

c: MAG Regional Council
MAG Management Committee

**TRANSPORTATION POLICY COMMITTEE
REVISED TENTATIVE AGENDA
October 21, 2009**

		<u>COMMITTEE ACTION REQUESTED</u>
1.	<u>Call to Order</u>	
2.	<u>Pledge of Allegiance</u>	
3.	<u>Call to the Audience</u> An opportunity will be provided to members of the public to address the Transportation Policy Committee on items not scheduled on the agenda that fall under the jurisdiction of MAG, or on items on the agenda for discussion but not for action. Citizens will be requested not to exceed a three minute time period for their comments. A total of 15 minutes will be provided for the Call to the Audience agenda item, unless the Transportation Policy Committee requests an exception to this limit. Please note that those wishing to comment on agenda items posted for action will be provided the opportunity at the time the item is heard.	3. Information.
4.	<u>Approval of Consent Agenda</u> Prior to action on the consent agenda, members of the audience will be provided an opportunity to comment on consent items that are being presented for action. Following the comment period, Committee members may request that an item be removed from the consent agenda. Consent items are marked with an asterisk (*).	4. Recommend approval of the Consent Agenda.

ITEMS PROPOSED FOR CONSENT*

*4A.	<u>Approval of the September 23, 2009, Meeting Minutes</u>	4A. Review and approval of the September 23, 2009, meeting minutes.
*4B.	<u>2009 Annual Report on Status of the Implementation of Proposition 400</u> A.R.S. 28-6354 requires that MAG issue an annual report on the status of regional transportation projects included in Proposition 400, which was approved by the voters in Maricopa County in November 2004. The 2009 Annual Report is the fifth report in this series and covers the status of the Life Cycle Programs for	4B. Information and discussion.

Freeways/Highways, Arterial Streets, and Transit. A Summary of Findings and Issues is included in the attached material and the full report is available on the MAG website. Please refer to the enclosed material.

*4C. Project Changes – Amendments and Administrative Modifications to the FY 2008-2012 MAG Transportation Improvement Program

The FY 2008-2012 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and Regional Transportation Plan 2007 Update were approved by the MAG Regional Council on July 25, 2007. Since that time, there have been requests from member agencies to modify projects in the programs. The proposed amendments and administrative modifications to the FY 2008-2012 TIP are listed in the attached table. These include requests to change locations for two CMAQ funded projects, new pavement preservation projects by the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT), and financial changes including amounts and type of funds for ADOT projects. Projects funded with the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funds are included in these requested changes. On October 1, 2009, the Transportation Review Committee recommend approval of amendments and administrative modifications to the FY 2008-2012 Transportation Improvement Program, and as appropriate, to the Regional Transportation Plan 2007 Update. Since the TRC met, there have been three additional project change requests from ADOT regarding right of way purchases. This request will not affect the current life cycle program cash flow. On October 14, 2009, the Management Committee recommended approval of the requested changes. Please refer to the enclosed material.

*4D. Arterial Life Cycle Program Status Report

A Status Report on the Arterial Life Cycle Program (ALCP) is provided for the period between April and September 2009 and will include an update on ALCP Project work, the remaining Fiscal Year 2010 ALCP schedule, program deadlines, and program revenues and finances. Please refer to the enclosed material.

4C. Recommend approval of amendments and administrative modifications to the FY 2008-2012 Transportation Improvement Program, and as appropriate, to the Regional Transportation Plan 2007 Update as shown in the attached tables.

4D. Information.

ITEMS PROPOSED TO BE HEARD

5. Update on the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009: Reallocation of Unused Local/MPO ARRA Funds – Policy Options

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009 was signed by President Obama on February 17, 2009. The Act directs transportation infrastructure funds to highway and transit agencies in State and Metropolitan Planning Organizations. In March 2009, the MAG Regional Council provided policy direction on how to program the ARRA funds designated to the MAG region for local projects, which included a regional obligation deadline of November 30, 2009. Per federal regulations, projects must undergo a set of federal clearances prior to obligation and advertisement and be obligated by March 2, 2010. Bids for initial ARRA funded projects have been between 20 percent to 50 percent below original estimates, and it is anticipated that trend will continue. As a result, unprogrammed ARRA funding may become available for additional projects. It is also anticipated that while some projects may not be on track to meet the federally mandated obligation date of March 2, 2010, others may be near completion and not meet the Regional Council November 30, 2009 deadline. With no Regional Council meeting scheduled in November, the Transportation Review Committee and the Management Committee recommended that the November 30, 2009 date be considered as a milestone date to determine the likelihood of obligation by the March 2, 2010 date and that another “hard” deadline date be established in January. The committees also provided guidance on the policy options. The categories that are proposed for the reallocation of the ARRA funds will be further discussed and a recommendation for the priorities for the categories will be on the October 29, 2009 Transportation Review Committee agenda. The recommendation will be considered at the November 18, 2009 MAG Management Committee, the December 2, 2009 Transportation Policy Committee and the December 9, 2009 Regional Council meetings. Please refer to the enclosed material.

5. Recommend that MAG staff explore the following uses for the reallocation of unobligated ARRA be considered, with the priorities for the uses be set next month based on further consideration: 1) Additional ARRA funds for existing ARRA projects, however, no increase in scope would be allowed, 2) Reduction in the local match, but not below the minimum set by MAG policy, for other federally funded projects that will obligate by the deadline, 3) Other local projects in the region that are eligible for ARRA funds and can obligate by the deadline, 4) Transfer funds to Transit, and 5) Modify the November 30, 2009 obligation deadline to a project development status review to determine the likelihood to obligate by March 2, 2010 with a final obligation/project development status review deadline in January to be determined.

6. Consideration of Tentative Scenario for Balancing the Proposition 400 Regional Freeway and Highway Program

In May 2009, a tentative scenario was presented to the Transportation Policy Committee as a means for bridging the funding gap in the Freeway and Highway Program. On July 15, 2009, the Transportation Policy Committee recommended that information provided by the MAG staff be reviewed by the Transportation Policy Committee that day for information and discussion only and that the information be further analyzed by the member agency staff and that a discussion be held regarding this information by the MAG Management Committee and that a decision on this information be tabled for 90 days and be considered at the October 21, 2009, Transportation Policy Committee meeting. The Transportation Policy Committee will receive an update on the strategies identified by MAG staff to address the funding gap in the Regional Freeway Program. Topics covered within this presentation include an update on cost saving proposals in the SR-202L/South Mountain Freeway and SR-303L corridors. The update will conclude with a presentation on overall strategies and scenarios for meeting the Regional Freeway funding gap, based on the corridor-specific cost savings, data collected from the Central Phoenix Peer Review Group, discussions with ADOT and their Management Consultants, and MAG staff recommendations. On October 14, 2009, the Management Committee received a presentation and discussed the tentative scenario. Please refer to the enclosed material.

7. Legislative Update

An update will be provided on legislative issues of interest.

8. Request for Future Agenda Items

Topics or issues of interest that the Transportation Policy Committee would like to have considered for discussion at a future meeting will be requested.

9. Adjournment

6. Information, discussion, and possible action to recommend approval of a tentative scenario for the MAG Regional Freeway and Highway Program to balance the Proposition 400 Regional Freeway and Highway Program and to incorporate it into the Regional Transportation Plan 2010 Update and the FY 2011-2015 MAG Transportation Improvement Program, with the understanding that due to the present cost and revenue uncertainties that this represents a placeholder and the program will be reevaluated in 18 months.

7. Information, discussion and possible action.

8. Information and discussion.